

Postal Rate Commission

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written approval. Such request must be made in writing to the Secretary.

[39 FR 2481, Jan. 22, 1974. Redesignated at 42 FR 3646, Jan. 19, 1977, and 48 FR 13168, Mar. 30, 1983]

APPENDIX A TO PART 3002—POSTAL RATE COMMISSION, MISSION STATEMENT OF THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE

The mission of the Office of the Consumer Advocate is to be a vigorous, responsive, and effective advocate for reasonable and equitable treatment of the general public in proceedings before the Postal Rate Commission.

In furtherance of this mission, the Office of the Consumer Advocate will:

1. Give a strong and consistent voice to the views of consumers, especially those that are not otherwise represented in Commission proceedings;
2. Argue for equity on behalf of individuals and small businesses, both as senders and as recipients of mail and mail services;
3. Utilize all means and procedures available under the Commission's rules and applicable law to present evidence and arguments on behalf of consumers in Commission proceedings;
4. Assist in the development of a complete record on issues pending before the Commission;
5. Engage in dialogue with parties or participants in proceedings before the Commission to advance the interests of consumers;
6. Encourage the equitable settlement of issues among the parties and participants in proceedings whenever possible;
7. Promote fair competition between the United States Postal Service and its competitors for the ultimate benefit of consumers;
8. Seek out responsible advocates of consumer interests and encourage their participation in Commission cases;
9. Maintain the highest standards of competence and quality in all evidence and pleadings submitted to the Commission; and
10. Maintain separation and independence from the Commission and its advisory staff in the course of proceedings before the Commission.

[64 FR 37402, July 12, 1999]

PART 3003—PRIVACY ACT RULES

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AUTHORITY: Privacy Act of 1974 (Pub. L. 93-579), 5 U.S.C. 552a.

SOURCE: 64 FR 57982, Oct. 28, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 3003.1 Purpose and scope.

This part implements the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) by establishing Commission policies and procedures that permit individuals to obtain access to and request amendment of information about themselves that is maintained in systems of records. This part does not expand or restrict any rights granted under the Privacy Act of 1974.

§ 3003.2 Definitions.

For purposes of this part:

(a) *Commission* means the Postal Rate Commission.

(b) *Individual, record, and system of records* have the meanings specified in 5 U.S.C. 552a(a).

(c) *Day* means a calendar day and does not include Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

§ 3003.3 Procedures for requesting inspection, copying, or correction.

(a) An individual who—

(1) Wishes to know whether a Commission system of records contains a record about him or her,

(2) Seeks access to a Commission record about him or her that is maintained in a system of records (including the accounting of disclosures), or

(3) Seeks to amend a record about him or her that is maintained in a system of records, may file a written request with the chief administrative officer of the Commission at the Commission's current address (1333 H Street NW., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20268-0001). The request should state on the outside of the envelope and in the request that it is a Privacy Act request.

(b) A request for amendment must describe the information sought to be amended and the specific reasons for the amendment.

(c) A requester—

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(1) May request an appointment to inspect records at the Commission's offices between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on any day;

(2) Must present suitable identification, such as a driver's license, employee identification card, or Medicare card;

(3) If accompanied by another individual, must sign a statement, if requested by the chief administrative officer, authorizing discussion of his or her record in the presence of that individual;

(4) Who files a request by mail must include his or her date of birth, dates of employment at the Commission (if applicable), and suitable proof of identity, such as a facsimile of a driver's license, employee identification card, or Medicare card; and

(5) Must, if requested by the chief administrative officer, provide additional proof of identification.

§ 3003.4 Response to a request.

(a) In the case of a request for notice of the existence of a record, the chief administrative officer shall respond within 10 days of receipt of a request and shall inform the individual whether a system of records maintained by the Commission contains such a record.

(b) In the case of a request for access to a record or for a copy of a record, the chief administrative officer shall acknowledge the request within 10 days and shall promptly thereafter—

(1) Fulfill the request by mail or arrange for an inspection by the requester in the Commission's offices; or

(2) If the request is denied, notify the requester of the denial, the reasons for the denial, the procedures for appealing the refusal, and the name and address of the Chairman of the Commission who will consider an appeal.

(c) In the case of a request for amendment, the chief administrative officer shall:

(1) Acknowledge the request in writing within 10 days;

(2) Promptly review the record; and

(3)(i) Make any requested amendment of a record found to be not accurate, relevant, timely, or complete; notify the requester of the change and provide a copy of the corrected record; and no-

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tify any previous recipient of the record (excluding Commission staff who obtained the record in the performance of their duties and recipients under the Freedom of Information Act) of any change; or

(ii) Inform the requester of a refusal to amend the record, the reasons for the refusal, the procedures for appealing the refusal, and the name and address of the Chairman of the Commission who will consider an appeal.

§ 3003.5 Appeals of denials of access or amendment.

(a) If a request for access to or amendment of a record is denied, the requester may file a written appeal with the Chairman of the Commission. The Chairman will decide each appeal within 30 days of receipt unless the Chairman has, for good cause, extended the period for another 30 days.

(b) If an appeal is denied, the requester will be notified of the decision, the reasons for the denial, the right to file a concise statement of disagreement, the procedures for filing a statement of disagreement, the subsequent uses of a statement of disagreement, and of the right to seek judicial review in accordance with subsection (g) of the Privacy Act.

§ 3003.6 Fees.

The first copy of any record furnished under the Privacy Act of 1974 will be provided without charge. Additional copies will be charged at the cost of reproduction.

§ 3003.7 Exemptions.

The Postal Rate Commission has not established any exempt system of records.

PART 3004—FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RULES

Sec.

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